

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-15 and 19-25 without prejudice. Please amend claims 16-18 as follows:

1.-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method for scheduling resource requests from a plurality of schedulable entities, wherein each resource request includes a requested duration and each schedulable entity has a maximum resource allocation, the maximum resource allocation being specified as a maximum quality of service guarantee, the method comprising:

assigning a start number tag to a each resource request using a start-time fair queuing algorithm with virtual time scheduling;

selecting the resource request with the smallest start number tag, the selected resource request having an associated schedulable entity;

limiting the requested duration of the selected resource request to a pre-determined duration upper bound;

servicing the selected resource request if servicing the selected resource request will not exceed the associated schedulable entity's maximum quality of service guarantee; and

advancing a virtual time value.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further including: updating the start number tag for a resource request associated with the schedulable entity that made the selected resource request if the selected resource request is not serviced.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further including: leaving the selected resource request pending if servicing the selected resource request will exceed the schedulable entity's maximum quality of service guarantee.

19.-25. (Cancelled)